

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US2004/018159

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01R31/307 H01L21/66

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01R H01L H01J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2001/022345 A1 (ISHIMOTO TORU) 20 September 2001 (2001-09-20) figures 1-4 paragraph '0002! - paragraph '0005! paragraph '0010! - paragraph '0012! paragraph '0020! - paragraph '0028! paragraph '0032! paragraph '0034! - paragraph '0036! -----	1-8, 10-23, 25-42
X	KEIZO YAMADA ET AL.: "An in-line process monitoring method using electron beam induced substrate current" MICROELECTRONICS RELIABILITY, 2001, pages 455-459, XP001152421 cited in the application the whole document ----- -/-	1-6, 8-11,13, 16, 18-26, 28,31-42

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

Date of mailing of the International search report

2 November 2004

11/11/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>US 2002/093350 A1 (YAMADA KEIZO) 18 July 2002 (2002-07-18)</p> <p>figures 1-4 paragraphs '0002!, '0009!, '0011!, '0017!, '0019! paragraph '0053! – paragraph '0056! paragraph '0100! – paragraph '0101!</p> <p>-----</p>	1-6,8, 10,11, 13,16, 18-23, 25,26, 28,31-42
X	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 09, 13 October 2000 (2000-10-13) -& JP 2000 174077 A (NEC CORP), 23 June 2000 (2000-06-23) abstract figures 1-4,10,16 paragraph '0003! – paragraph '0004! paragraph '0020! – paragraph '0022! paragraph '0032! – paragraph '0033! paragraph '0053! – paragraph '0056!</p> <p>-----</p>	1,14-16, 29,30
X	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2002, no. 07, 3 July 2002 (2002-07-03) -& JP 2002 083849 A (NEC CORP), 22 March 2002 (2002-03-22) abstract & US 6 768 324 B1 (TSUJIDE TOHRU ET AL) 27 July 2004 (2004-07-27) figures 1,2,4a,45 abstract column 19, line 61 – column 20, line 14</p> <p>-----</p>	1,7,16, 17

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